

D<sup>2</sup>  
member and at a second end to another adjacent strut member, in an unexpanded state of the stent each strut member being parallel to the longitudinal axis of the stent and equidistant from adjacent strut members to which it is connected, adjacent sets of strut members being coupled each to the other by connectors, said stent having a proximal end, a distal end and a center section located approximately half-way between said proximal and distal ends, said stent having two types of circumferentially extending sets of strut members, a first type of set of strut members and a second type of set of strut members, the first type of set of strut members forming a path about the periphery of the stent which has a shorter total length as compared to the total length of a pathway about the periphery of the stent formed by the second type of set of strut members, the stent when expanded having a uniform diameter and having the first type of set of strut members having greater radial rigidity as compared to the second type of set of strut members.

D<sup>3</sup>  
18. (Twice Amended) A stent formed from a single piece of material, the stent comprising a multiplicity of sets of strut members with each set of strut members forming a serpentine closed structure which extends about the periphery of the stent, the closed structure comprised of strut members, each strut member connected at a first end to one adjacent strut via a curved end segment and at a second end to another adjacent strut via another curved end segment, the curved end segments being of the same length, adjacent sets of strut members being coupled each to the other by connectors, said stent having a proximal end, a distal end and a center section located approximately half-way between said proximal and distal ends, said stent having two types of circumferentially extending sets of strut members, a first type of set of strut members and a second type of set of strut members, the first type of set of strut members forming a path about the periphery of the stent which has a shorter total length as compared to the total length of a pathway about the periphery of the stent formed by the second type of set of strut members, the stent when expanded having a uniform diameter and having the first type of set of strut members having greater radial rigidity as compared to the second type of set of strut members.